

A

# REVIEW

OF THE

# STATE

OF THE

# BRITISH NATION.

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Thursday, January 4. 1711.

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**I** Think those Gentlemen, who having had such Flegmatick Thoughts of the Proceedings of our New Party, as to be frighted with Apprehensions of the loss of our Constitution, have betray'd very much their want of Faith in, *as well as Knowledge* of the Foundation of the Government of this Kingdom: Two sorts of People, I find, have strangely mistaken these Things, and must have wrong Notions, either of the Power, or of the Design of the present People, that have the publick Affairs in their Hands; 1. The *High-Flyers*, and 2. The *Melancholly Whigs* — The first to hope, and the second to be afraid, that all this, tends to bring in the *Pretender*.

The High Flyers and such of Tories, who having the *pretender in View*, Thought, according to the *Douay Letter*, that the Parliament should do it avowedly, and Parliamentarily; these were strangely mistaken, and they already own it, by Raging and Raving at the Parliament, and the New Ministry, as much as they did at the Old.

As to the desponding Whig, whose Apprehensions are grown up to a State Hypo, that will have it, that we are all Ruin'd, that Popery, Slavery, and Tyranny, are returning; That the Revolution is gone, the Succession baffled, the Union broken, the Tolleration lost, and all this, because

as they think, Toryism is breaking in like a Flood; to these I cannot but speak a Word or two, if possible, to clear up their Heads, and raise their Courage, and I shall Sum it up in the short Text I quoted before, *Be not afraid, only believe.*

Have you seen the bewitch'd People crying out, *Down with the Revolution, Damn the Revolution*, and the Mob flying in the Face of all those, who are for defending it, or had a Hand in bringing it to pass — WELL, Remember, not a Man that Encourages that Rabble, dare Act in any Publick Station, in opposition to that Revolution, nor dare justify or own, that they have the least Design against it; and can they pull down that in private, which they are forc'd to support in Publick? — *Be not afraid, only believe.*

Have you seen the High Flyers Impudently drink a Health to the Pretender, and boast, that the New Ministry, the Parliament, nay, the Queen herself, shall concur to restore him? WELL, Remember, at the same time they are forc'd to abjure him; the Parliament, the Ministry, the Queen, stand all upon the Establishment of the Union, and that upon the Revolution, whose Establishment is such, that they may indeed Vote themselves out if they please, but they cannot Vote the other in — And the People must be Enquir'd of, before that can be done, whether they will have this Man to Reign over them? and do you think they will ever answer YES? Wherefore, *Be not afraid, only believe.*

Have you seen the Rabbles and Tumults of the People, excited by the Enemies of the Government? And have you been frighted with the Apprehensions, that these may be Instrumental to Overthrow, as they were once to bring about the Revolution? WELL, Remember that they have inflam'd this Rabble, by persuading the Poor Ignorant People, That the Whigs and the Dissenters would bring in the Pretender, and is it probable they shall ever be undeceiv'd? *Be not afraid, only Believe.*

Have you seen a Change in the Ministry, and been told that the New Schemes are all

Ruinous to the Liberties and Establishment of the Nation? That the Stuices are drawn up, and Tories will break in like a Flood; that those in the New Ministry that would refrain them, will not be able. — Have you been frighted with Apprehensions, either of Persecution from the Dissenters, Invasion of our United Brethren, and Church of Scotland, and Dissolution of the very Spirit of Liberty among us? — WELL, Remember — Whatever they are before they come in, they must Act according to Law, when they are in — Remember, the Constitution requires their adhering to a Revolution Queen, and as to their giving us up to France, are they able to do it? Or will we be given up by them if they design'd it? *Be not afraid, only believe.*

Have you seen the Enemy revive, the Confederates concern'd, the Jacobites recover, their Spirits, and a furious Party at Home, pushing us into all manner of Confusions? And have the Violence of these People carry'd the Stream of the Nation down with them? WELL, Remember, when the Devil came in great Rage, it was because he knew his time was short, and whereas you see the Parliament already discovers, that they are inclin'd to carry Things on in the Legal Channel, and to make no Breaches upon our Constitution; let us be easie, as to what we see, and as to what is yet to come; can you doubt but Providence shall restore the Nation to its Senses again; *Be not afraid, only believe.*

Believe, That tho' Men would give us up, Heaven restrains them, and if Heaven should, for a Season, forsake us, the black bloody Generation that wait for this Nation's Confusion, are not the Men: Believe, that Heaven that has done such mighty Things to recover us out of their Hands, will not give us up to them again; their Aim is the Destruction of the very Foundation both of the Religion and Liberties of Britain: Believe, That these can never be the Creatures, by whom Heaven will afflict this Nation, whenever in Judgment, he shall think to Visit us.

*Believe,*



*Believe*, That all the People now in Power, cannot be equally possess'd with Designs fatal to their Country; many may be Deluded, many may be for Extremes, many may have private Views, which they care not what they Sacrifice, whether Queen or Country, or what else to carry on; but many more have Estates to lose, Families to preserve, great Possessions in the *Terra Firma*, and consequently great Concern for Liberty, and Property, and these can never join with those, that would give us up to *France*.

*Believe*, That the Invincible Influence of the Constitution, is such a firm Security against Jacobitism, *French* Tyranny, and the Pretender, that no civil Branch of the said Constitution, can ever be Instrumental to making the least advance that Way: the very motion of one Branch, would put all the rest in Confusion and Disorder, divide, dissipate, and disperse the Parties, and give a new State-Revolution to the several Schemes they had laid; so that it is impossible any that Act against the Establish'd Constitution, can agree long together.

*Believe* then, that notwithstanding all these Changes and Turns, yet the very People that now support them, carry them on, and appear formidable to you in doing so, will turn on in the Circle, till they turn in again, from whence they began; or else the Circle turning without them, they will turn themselves out, and all be in order without their Assistance; and that the Nature of Things will bring this to pass, whether Men will or no.

And when I say this, what is more plain, than that in part it is done so already; for do not the Jacobites cry out already? Do they not say they are all betray'd?—What is it to them, whether *Tories* or *Whigs*, *High Church* or *Low Church* are in? You are all *Whigs* already, as to them; the difference of Parties, what is it to their Cause, if their Card is not come up Trump? The rest are all alike; the Parliament, the Ministry, the *High-Church*, they are all *Whigs* to them, while they refuse to go

their length, and carry on their Interest.

*Well, Gentlemen*, separate the *Jacobites* from them, and let us see, how long will it be, before the rest will be all *Whigs* again? Let us see, how the Mad *High Flying Party* will carry on their Cause, when the *Jacobites* sensible of their being in a Plot to Trick them, or not able to serve them, shall stand back, and go no farther with them? when *Tories* and *Jacobites* fall out about the Spoil of their Country, shall no Body step in, and rescue the Nation? Shall there be none of the Spirit of Liberty found in the World? It cannot be.

Nothing to me seems more clear, than that all this new Model must gradually fall into the Principles and the Practice, as they stand upon the Foundation of a *Whig-Constitution* ——— The present out-side of Things will, may, and I think must, wear off; Government cannot consist with Rabble, Violence, and Tumult; either the Government must Suppress not only the Rabbles themselves, but the Spirit of Rabbling that is now gone out in the Nation, or that Spirit of Rabbling will one time or other Oppress and Subject Government itself; either the *Tory* and the *Jacobite*, the *High Flyer* and the *Jacobite*, must join to destroy the Revolution-Principle, and bring in *France* upon us, or the Revolution-Principle must at last suppress and destroy Jacobitism and *High Flying*; either the Queen must be depos'd, and her Interest crush'd by the Pretender, or the Pretender and his Adherents will be Trampled under Foot, by the Queen and her Friends.

Is it likely that the same Power that shall reduce *France*, suppress Popery, exclude the Pretender, support the Queen, and explode Jacobitism, and *High Flying*, can oppress the *Whigs*?—Can the *Whigs* and such a Party differ? No, no, as the other cannot go far together, so these cannot go long asunder, they will all come back to Whiggism, be not afraid only believe.

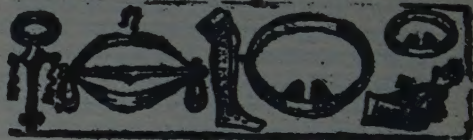
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